September 19, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The MiLW Blog: Six tapped for grievance commission, discipline board

"The Michigan Supreme Court has appointed three attorneys to the Attorney Grievance Commission, and has also named three lawyers to the Attorney Discipline Board."

Full story

Also see:

Michigan Supreme Court announces appointments to Attorney Discipline Board

Press release

Michigan Supreme Court announces appointments to Attorney Grievance Commission

Press release

SBM Blog: State Court Administrator Leaving To Head National Judicial College

"State Court Administrator Chad Schmucker has been named the new president of the National Judicial College based in Reno, Nevada. Schmucker, who was honored today at the SBM Annual Meeting by the for his leadership in helping people overcame barriers to access to Michigan courts, was named State Court Administrator in 2011, after serving 20 years as a Jackson County circuit court judge."

Full story

Also see:

State Court Administrator Chad C. Schmucker named National Judicial College President; second Michiganian to serve in both posts

<u>Press release</u>

Jackson County Legal News: Michigan Supreme Court kicks off new session by directing access to foreign language interpreters

"Michigan Supreme Court justices wasted no time getting down to business in their first official session of the season last week, adopting a rule that all Michigan courts will provide foreign language interpreters to people with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Jr. and Justice Bridget M. McCormack, the court's liaison justice on access to justice issues, announced the new rule Sept. 11." *Full story*

The Detroit News: Politics, not ethics, drive Michigan Bar

Dan Pero writes "The State Bar of Michigan must have a really low opinion of the ethical standards of state judges. At least that's the implication of its recent call for an 'urgently needed' ruling to outlaw constitutionally protected donations to independent groups that take sides in judicial elections."

Full story

Also see:

Ingham County Legal News: State Bar of Michigan calls for halt to secret funding of judicial campaign ads

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Meningitis outbreak prompts legislation to tighten pharmacy regulations

"Regulations and oversight of pharmacies would be strengthened under legislation proposed today by Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette and state Rep. Joe Hune, R-Hamburg Township.... The state Court of Appeals granted Schuette's request to empanel a grand jury to investigate the tainted drugs. That investigation continues under the seal of grand jury secrecy."

Full story

Also see:

The Detroit News: New state restrictions planned in wake of meningitis outbreak in Michigan

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Wayne County Commission passes resolution seeking release of jail audit from Prosecutor Worthy

"The Wayne County Commission this morning approved a resolution seeking Prosecutor Kym Worthy's release of the Wayne County Jail audit, saying though a one-person grand jury has been commissioned to decide whether criminal activity took place, the release of the document is necessary for future reference. Worthy, through a spokeswoman, said Monday that the report would be released at the conclusion of her office's investigation."

Full story

Also see:

The Detroit News: One-man grand jury probes Wayne Co. jail project Full story

Bay City Times: Paroled sex offender flees Bay County courthouse to avoid jail and is quickly nabbed by police

"When a sex offender on parole faced the prospect of more jail time, he opted to make a run for it, authorities say. But it only gained him a few minutes of freedom before police caught up to him. About 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 17, authorities allege 33-year-old Joshua F. Baldwin fled the Bay County Court Facility, 1230 Washington Ave. in Bay City, after meeting with his parole agent." *Full story*

C & G News/Warren: Shelby grants Macomb 90-day extension to decide on court

"With Macomb Township in the midst of a financial study of the 41-A District Court, officials from Shelby Township decided to give their neighbor more time to decide whether to build a new court building in Macomb. On Sept. 3, the Shelby Township Board of Trustees voted 6-1 in favor of granting a 90-day extension for Macomb to make a final decision, pushing the deadline back to Dec. 5."

Full story

Detroit Legal News: WMU, Cooley formerly ink affiliation accord

"Officials, alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends of Western Michigan University and Thomas M. Cooley Law School met on the WMU campus Sept. 17 to witness the formal signing of an affiliation agreement between the schools and celebrate a range of initiatives expected to grow out of the move." Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Macomb County Legal News.

Flint Journal: Appeals Court panel rejects new trial, upholds \$375,000 verdict in Clio e-mail case

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has refused to overturn a \$375,000 verdict and won't grant a new trial in a 2006 e-mail scandal involving former Clio board member Larry Emmerling, former teacher Diane Reed, former City Commissioner Rebecca Freifeld and resident Julie Keyes."

Grand Rapids Press: Federal lawsuit challenging Michigan Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect put on hold

"A federal lawsuit challenging the Michigan Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect has been put on hold pending a decision in a similar case in the state Court of Appeals. The federal lawsuit alleged that the registry created a 'black list' of parents who are unfairly listed as child abusers.... The state asked that the case be stayed because another case, Nicastro v Michigan Department of Human Services, is pending before the state Court of Appeals."

Full story

Hometown Life Newspapers: Redford's judge Dillon dies at 86

"Retired District Court Judge John M. Dillon, the longest serving judge in Redford Township history, died Wednesday at home after a long illness. He was 86.... He was elected as justice of the peace in 1963. In 1968, Dillon was top vote-getter in his election as district judge, a non-partisan position. He was reelected every term until his retirement in 1992.... After retiring as a full-time judge, Dillion served as a visiting judge in many courts."

Full story

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Obituary: THE HONORABLE JOHN M., DILLON

Full story

Muskegon Chronicle: Question of the Day: Do Muskegon's many veterans make special court worth future investment? (poll)

"A Muskegon County alternative court for high-risk, high-need combat veterans would be the first court of its type to be certified by the U.S. Department of Justice. The specialty court, similar to sobriety court, would aim at directing offenders into treatment programs and reducing the number of repeat offenders, called recidivism."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Inn of Court members meet up at mixer

"The Oakland County Bar Association (OCBA) Inn of Court hosted its Orientation/Mixer on Monday, Sept. 9 at the Iroquois Club in Bloomfield Hills. Among those enjoying the evening were Oakland County Probate Court Judge Kathleen Ryan; ... Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Colleen O'Brien; ... Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Jim Alexander; U.S. District Court Judge David Lawson, Eastern District of Michigan; Oakland County Probate Court Judge Elizabeth Pezzetti; ... and Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Martha Anderson."

Full story

Shelby Township Source Newspapers : MOUNT CLEMENS: Viviano family named Columbus Day honorees of the year

"Macomb County Circuit Judge Antonio Viviano and his family have been named the 2013 Columbus Day honorees of the year.... [Viviano] and his wife Alice Marie have seven children.... His son David was recently appointed to the Michigan Supreme Court."

Full story

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Retired state Supreme Court justice to speak

"A couple of simple changes in the law could resolve problems that tarnish the state's judicial system. That's the message of retired Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly, who will speak in Traverse City next week about what many believe is the corrupting influence of money and partisanship in the state's judicial system."

Full story